

Further, in Step 248, when the copying process is not normal, the disk moving unit 30 takes out the disk 11C from the drive unit 20 and returns it to the storage rack 12-4 on the basis of the control signal C2 outputted from the storage control unit 50 (Step 250).

On the other hand, in Step 245, when the copying process is not normal, the disk moving unit 30 takes out the disk 11D from the drive unit 20 and returns it to the storage rack 12-4 on the basis of the control signal C2 outputted from the storage control unit 50 (Step 251).

Then, the disk moving unit 30 takes out the disk 11C from the storage rack 12-3 and inserts it into the drive unit 20 on the basis of the control signal outputted from the storage control unit 50 (Step 252). The copying unit 60 copies the information stored in the copying source disk 3 into the disk 11C and determines whether the information of the copied disk 11C are normal or not, after the drive unit 20 drives the disk 11C (Step 253).

Hereupon, the disk moving unit 30 takes out the disk 11C from the drive unit 20 and returns it to the storage rack 12-2, when the copying process is normal (Step 254).

Further, in Step 253, when the copying process is not normal, the disk moving unit 30 takes out the disk 11C from the drive unit 20 and returns it to the storage rack 12-3 on the basis of the control signal C2 outputted from the storage control unit 50 (Step 255).

On the other hand, in Step 208, the process is executed in accordance with the flowchart shown in FIG. 12, when the copying process is not normal. First of all, the disk moving unit 30 takes out the disk 11C from the drive unit 20 and returns it to the storage rack 12-5 on the basis of the control signal C2 outputted from the storage control unit 50 (Step 256).

Then, the disk moving unit 30 takes out the disk 11D from the storage rack 12-4 and inserts it into the drive unit 20 on the basis of the control signal outputted from the storage control unit 50 (Step 257). The copying unit 60 copies the information stored in the copying source disk 3 into the disk 11D and determines whether the information of the copied disk 11D are normal or not, after the drive unit 20 drives the disk 11D (Step 258).

Hereupon, the disk moving unit 30 takes out the disk 11D from the drive unit 20 and returns it to the storage rack 12-3 on the basis of the control signal C1 outputted from the storage control unit 50, when the copying process is normal (Step 259).

Further, in the Step 258, when the copying process is not normal, the disk moving unit 30 takes out the disk 11D from the drive unit 20 and returns it to the storage rack 12-4 on the basis of the control signal C2 outputted from the storage control unit 50 (Step 260).

As described hereinbefore, one vacant storage rack is generated between the normal disk stored from one side of the storage racks and the error disk stored from the other side of the storage racks, since the number of copied disks (11A-11D) is one less than the number of storage racks.

Accordingly, the operator can easily distinguish between the normal disks and the error disks by identifying the vacant storage rack. Besides, the operator can use the storage racks efficiently by setting the number of storage racks so that it will be one more than the number of disks.

The storage control unit 50 controls the disks so as to take out the disks from one side of the storage racks 12 as the next disk to be copied and processed when the copying process is normal, controls the disks so as to take out the disks from the other side of the storage racks 12 when the copying process is not normal. The disks can all be stored in the

storage racks even if the error disks are generated continuously, or the normal disks are generated continuously, when the number of the storage racks is set so that it will be one more than the number of disks.

FIG. 13 is a diagram indicating an example of storing the four copied disks 11A through 11D into the storage racks. In the example shown in FIG. 13, the disks 11A through 11C are processed as normal disks from Step 201 to Step 210. The disk 11D is processed as an abnormal disk in Step 211. The disks 11A through 11C are stored in the storage racks 12-1 through 12-3. It can be easily understood that the number of the disk in which the copying error has occurred is one, since a single disk 11D is stored in the storage rack 12-5 will be a vacant storage rack 12-4.

Further, in embodiment 2, for instance, a hard disk or a floppy disk can be substituted for the magneto-optical disk as the storage medium to be copied.

<EMBODIMENT 3>

Embodiment 3 of the present invention will now be described. The construction diagram of the library device of embodiment 3 is shown in FIG. 14. In FIG. 14, the library device comprises a counting unit 71 connected to a storage control unit 50, a determination unit 72 connected to the counting unit 71 and an alarm unit 73 connected to the determination unit 72.

The counting unit 71 is a counter, and counts the number of error disks (whose copying process is not normal) and the number of normal disks (whose copying process is normal). The determination unit 72 determines whether or not the number of the error disks counted by the counting unit 71 has exceeded the predetermined number. The alarm unit 73 is a speaker and so on, and sounds an alarm when the number of error disks has exceeded the predetermined number. The predetermined number of error disks is set to be half of the total number of copied disks.

Further, other constructions are the same as those of embodiment 2, so description of the identical parts will be omitted and they will be indexed with the same numbers as used in the other embodiments.

The method for selecting copied disks of embodiment 3 will be described by using FIG. 15. First of all, the disk moving unit 30 takes out the disk 11 from the storage rack 12 (Step 301), and the copying unit 60 executes a copying process for the disk 11 and determines whether or not the copying process is normal (Step 302).

The counting unit 71 counts the number of normal disks when the copying process is normal (Step 303). The counting unit 71 counts the number of error disks when the copying process is not normal (Step 304).

Then, the disk moving unit 30 stores the copied disks in the storage rack under the control of the storage control unit 50 (Step 305). Further, the storage control unit 50 determines whether or not all of the disks to be copied have been copied (i.e. whether or not the copying process has been completed) (Step 306).

If the copying process is not completed, the process returns to Step 301 and the processes from Step 301 to Step 305 are repeated. Further, Steps 301, 302, 305 and 306 are completely the same as those of embodiment 2.

Then, when the copying process is completed, the determination unit 72 determines whether or not the number of error disks counted by the counting unit 71 exceeds the number of normal disks (Step 307). The alarm unit 73 sounds an alarm when the number of error disks exceeds the number of normal disks.

Namely, according to embodiment 3, the operator can easily recognize that there are too many error disks, since the